

**THIS DECISION HAS BEEN APPEALED. THE  
FOLLOWING IS THE RELATED SOAH DECISION NUMBER:**

**SOAH DOCKET NO. 453-04-3072.M4**

Under the provisions of Section 413.031 of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Title 5, Subtitle A of the Texas Labor Code, effective June 17, 2001 and Commission Rule 133.305, titled Medical Dispute Resolution-General, and 133.307, titled Medical Dispute Resolution of a Medical Fee Dispute, a review was conducted by the Division regarding a medical fee dispute between the requestor and the respondent named above. This dispute was received on 9/2/03.

**I. DISPUTE**

Whether there should be reimbursement for psychiatric diagnostic - 90801, psychiatric evaluation of hospital records - 90825, preparation of report - 90889 dated 11/7/02. Payment was denied on the basis of lack of preauthorization.

**II. RATIONALE**

Rule 134.600 (b)(1) states, "The insurance carrier is liable for all reasonable and necessary medical costs relating to the health care required to treat a compensable injury... when...

- (B) preauthorization of any health care listed in subsection (h) of this section was approved prior to providing the health care;"

Rule 134.600 (h) states, health care requiring preauthorization includes...(i)

- (4) all psychological testing and psychotherapy, repeat interviews, and biofeedback; except when any service is part of a preauthorized or exempt rehabilitation program;

The requestor disputes that preauthorization was required because they did not consider the service "testing" but instead an intake interview.

The report of 11/7/02 from the requestor states, "Provisional Diagnosis: ... pain disorder associated with psychological factors and general medical condition... Axis IV: 3, moderate, occupational and social. Axis V: GAF – Current: 55. Highest in the past year: 70. Global assessment of functioning scale score: 51-60, symptoms impacting occupational and social function. Psychosocial stressor scale score: Three, moderate, due to problems with functional limitations, pain and limitations in independence..." Determining a diagnosis and assigning numbers to GAF and Psychosocial stressor scale score indicates "psychological testing" and therefore requires preauthorization.

The requestor did not make clear what records were examined, what tests were ordered or who reviewed the records. The "Provisional Diagnosis... Global Assessment of Functioning Scale

Score... and psychosocial stressor scale score...” indicate testing which requires preauthorization. On this basis, reimbursement is not recommended.

#### **IV. DECISION**

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services within this request, the Division has determined the requestor **is not** entitled to reimbursement for 90801, psychiatric evaluation of hospital records - 90825, preparation of report – 90889.

The above Findings and Decision are hereby issued this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 2004.

Noel L. Beavers  
Medical Dispute Resolution Officer  
Medical Review Division

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